



NEXT STEPS UPDATE



June 2010

Dear Parent Advisors,

It has been quite a year for serving families of students with special needs in Connecticut. We all face challenges, our poor economy being one of the hardest to overcome for families, schools and towns. Many parents are having a harder time at PPT meetings this year and are requesting more direct support from us for someone to attend their PPT meetings. I have sent out several emails to Parent Advisors for this assistance and have had some wonderful replies and appreciate those of you who are willing and able to provide this support to others. If anyone has not received a request, and is available, please let me know and I will include you in the future. It is possible you live in a different area, or the request came from someone within your own district and therefore it would not be an appropriate match. Thanks for all you already do to support families in Connecticut.

~JANE

Featured Transition Resources:

Watch the video!

["Collaboration Between High Schools and Vocational Rehabilitation Program"](#)

Visit www.Thinkcollege.net. This website includes resources and strategies designed for families of students with developmental disabilities interested in the benefits of college for their child.

Division on Career Development and Transition

www.dcdt.org/pub.cfm

DDS Helpline

CPAC has added a link to the CT Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Helpline phone numbers to our website. You can find it in the section labeled "Helpful Links."

www.cpacinc.org/helpful-resources/useful-links

Many families lost case management services last year if they did not meet the state's criteria for that service. DDS has made the Helpline available to families that still need DDS services but do not have a case manager. Please make sure you share this with any family you may work with that has a child served by DDS.



SURVEY REMINDER....

For those of you who use email, we sent out a link for the Next STEPs 2010 Survey to an online survey on May 13th. If you have already filled it out, thank you. If not, please take a moment to help us out and provide your meaningful feedback by going to this link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VN8QSSJ>

If we do not have your email, we have included a copy with this mailing, as well as a self addressed, stamped envelope for its return. We appreciate your help in collecting this information.

Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center
338 Main Street, Niantic, CT 06357 * 800-445-2722 * www.cpacinc.org
New Haven—203-776-3211

Connecticut Department of Education Parent Survey

To the right is a list of the 29 districts to be included in the 09-10 distribution of the parent survey. If you live in any of these districts please be sure to be on the lookout for the survey in the mail. Please share this information with other families in your district as well, and if you are interested in helping to spread the word please contact us for ideas or flyers to share with other families in your town. If you have already received it, please fill it out and return it so your voice can be heard. If you feel you may have thrown it out in error or need another copy please contact us and we will direct you on how to receive a second survey.

Barkhamsted School District
Berlin School District
Bloomfield School District
Colebrook School District
CT Technical High School
Danbury School District
Deep River School District
East Haven School District
Essex School District
Granby School District
Ledyard School District
Mansfield School District
Milford School District
Montville School District
Norwalk School District
Pomfret School District
Portland School District
Putnam School District
Redding School District
Regional School District 7
Regional School District 9
Somers School District
Sprague School District
Stratford School District
Thomaston School District
Union School District
Wallingford School District
Weston School District
Westport School District

Bullying Calls On The Rise....

There seems to be an increase in the number of calls we have been receiving regarding bullying. If this is of interest to you please see this resource that may prove useful:

www.stopbullyingnow.com



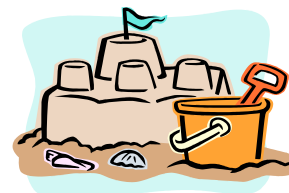
Additionally, we have a fact sheet on sexual harassment in schools called "Sexual Harassment: It's Not Academic." If you are interested in a copy please call and we can mail or email it to you.

You're Invited!

Our Annual Friends and Family Summer Picnic!

This year's entertainment includes participatory drumming and yoga. Bob Bloom will lead the children in making music and providing fun for all ages and abilities. Karen O'Donnell Clark will be instructing us for yoga and will lead us in building mind and body skills as we practice stretching and meditation. As always, there will be plenty of food, activities, games and beach access. Registration is required.

Please call CPAC at (800) 445-2722 Or email us at cpac@cpacinc.org or register online through the [picnic registration form](#).



This activity is supported by a grant from the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut

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